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THE OBSERVATOR.

of the Papists in England, Scotland, *and* Ireland. *Of a Book call'd,* The Wolf ſtrip'd of his Shepherds Cloathing. *Of the Duke of* Berwicks *Secretary being taken as coming from* France.

From Wednesday December the 15th, to Saturday December the 18th, 1703.

Country-m. MAſter Obſervator, I'll aſſure you the Jacobites, Papiſts, and High-fliers are very much Diſgruntled; they ſay if the moderate Churchmen do Unite with the Diſſenters, 'twill be impoſible to Set up Young Perkin. They commend Clamour, Contention, and Diſunion, as abſolutely neceſſary to the Support of their Cauſe. And a Libelling Poetaſter of theirs is Writing a Panegyrick in Praiſe of the late horrible Tempeſt and Hurricane. They rejoyce at all the Misfortunes and Judgments of Heaven that befal England; they are never ſo Merry as when they hear of our Loſſes, either by Sea or Land. Theſe are your High-Churchmen, as they call Themſelves, who Rail at the Diſſenters, and Shake Hands with the Papiſts; they are extream-ly pleas'd to hear of the forwardneſs of their Bre-thren, the Tories and Rapperees in Ireland, and of the Church Male-Contents and Papiſts in Scot-land. They expect better News, as they call it, in a ſhort timee from thoſe Kingdoms.

Obſ. Honeſt Country-man, It is worthy our Notice, if not our Admiration, how bitterly thoſe People, who call themſelves High-Churchmen, do Inveigh againſt the Proteſtant Diſſenters, and at the ſame time take no Notice of the Papiſts, who are Arming themſelves, in Ireland and Scotland, againſt Her Majeſties Authority. The Engliſh in Ireland are ſenſible of their Danger, and by way of Precaution have drawn up Heads of a Bill to prevent the farther growth of Popery in that Kingdom. The Papiſts have a Fund in England to prevent its Paſſing here; and I believe they and the High-Churchmen, who Embarqued in the ſame Deſign of bringing Perkin to the Crown, have got Money enough for that Purpoſe; for 'tis the Intereſt of the Romaniſts in all Countries to Supply them with Neceſſaries. 'Tis true, the French Tyrant has not Leiſure at preſent to ſend Forces in ſuch an Expedition; but our Enemies in Scot-land and Ireland are making ready to receive him, when his Government ſhall ſo mend upon his Hands, as he ſhall be able to make a Deſcent upon Ireland.

The People of England and Ireland cannot be too cautious in this Affair; they cannot put them-ſelves in too good a Poſture of Defence. 'Tis high time for them to be upon their Guard, and ready to Defend themſelves and their Queen, who is now, under God, our only Shield againſt Popery. The Kingdom of Ireland is advantageouſly Situated, and furniſhed with convenient Ports to the South-ward, to favour a Diſembarquement of French Forces; and in thoſe Parts, according to Compu-tation, the Papiſts have a Majority of Seven to One, and they are the moſt begotted to their Prieſthood of any Men Living. 'Tis true, the Proteſtants of that Kingdom upon the Revolution did wonders againſt the regular Forces of the Iriſh and French; but they met with ſo little Encouragment, and ſuch mean Rewards for ſuch Singular Services, that we cannot expect they ſhould again expoſe themſelves after ſuch ill Treat-ment. I have my ſelf been an Eye Witneſs of the Bravery of thoſe Men, as alſo of their deplorable Condition after they had done ſo many Glorious Actions. If we would preſerve Ireland, we muſt allow the Engliſh in that Kingdom better Encour-agement, and let 'em be Engliſhmen there and have Rights and Priviledges to Fight for, which is Eſſential to the Support of any Government.

Country-m. Maſter Obſervator, I am reſolved to get my Self and Family compleatly Armed: I have got already two good Proteſtant Muſkets, and three Baſket Hilt Swords, that were uſed at Marſton-Moor, Edge-Hill, and at Dunkirk; and I'll go to Tom Tyler in the Minories, and bid him make me a good Proteſtant Blunderbuſs, that will Carry 17 or 18 Bullets, and three Pair of good Piſtols, and as many Carbins, and I'll bring all my Cart-Horſes to Love the ſmell of Gun-Powder: In ſhort I'll be ready at an Hours Warning for the Service of my Queen and Country. I hope my Queen will never have Occaſion for my Ser-vice; but I aſſure you, I don't like ſo many Pa-piſts being in and about the City of London. I don't like thoſe French Fellows in particular; there are the Lord knows how many Thou-ſands of them in Weſtminſter and Spittle-Fields, and I am affraid they are no better Proteſtants than our High-Flyers and Jacobites; for you know we could not get enough of them to com-pleat the Duke of Schonberghs Regiment for the Portugal Expedition: And I obſerv'd t'other Day as I walk'd thro' Soho, and the Seven Streets at Cock and Pye-Fields, where theſe French Folks are very Numerous, that almoſt at every Shop, it was Written in Capital Letters, Here is Gun-Powder and Ball to be Sold; ſo that if the Papiſts can get Arms they know where to be provided with Ammunition.——Pray, Sir, have you look'd into the Book I brought you, call'd, The Wolf Strip'd of his Shepherds Cloathing. I want to know what that Fellow means by his Charge againſt the moderate Churchmen and Diſſenters.

Obſ. You ſee he Stiles himſelf a High-Church-man, and by his own Title you muſt not expect to find either Religion or Honeſty in his Book; he is a Popiſh - Nonjuring - Epiſcopal - Diſſen-ting-Scots-Prieſt; and when I have Stript the Aſs of his Parſons Gown, you ſhall ſee the Mon-ſter in his juſt Shape and Proportion.

Country-m. Maſter Obſervator, We'll Talk at another time more largely of the Doctrines of this Nonjuring-Prieſt; but I long to hear how he

proves

proves his Assertion, that there were Attempts made to hinder Her Majesties Succession to the Crown.

Obs. He's a Plaguy Fellow at Argument, he has prov'd it as plain as the Nose in a Mans Face: I'll Read it to you, and deny it if you can; here it is, Page 70. 'There came out at that time, when 'an Opportunity offer'd of taking into Consider-'ation again the Act of Succession, for the adding 'to it the Illustrious House of Hanover, which, 'taking hold of this Occasion, struck in, and en-'deavoured with Might and Main to get the 'Princess ANN Excluded. That Pamphlet bears 'this Title Reasons for Addressing His Majesty 'to Invite into England, Their Highnesses, the 'Electoress Dower and the Electoral Prince of 'Hanover, *&c.* Where page 15. This is put down 'as a Maxim, That all free People have set aside 'the Children of Tyrants, for Reasons of Eternal 'and Universal Force.

Now is not this as plain as the Nose in a Mans Face, that the Dissenters endeavoured to hinder the Queens Succession to the Crown, and to bring over the Family of Hannover before their Time? You have it in Verbo Sacerdotis; and lest you should question a Nonjurors Word, here is plain Reason, sound Argument, and Conclusions Naturally arising from the Premises. Is not this the depth of Reason, and the heighth of Argument? Whoever Writes a Book with Reasons for Inviting into England the Electoress Dowager of Hanover, Attempts to hinder the Queens Succession; but a Book was Written to that purpose; therefore the Dissenters did endeavour to hinder Her Majesties Succession to the Throne.

Country-m. Tarbox, this Parson is a Blockhead, a fine Fellow to make a Priest of; I'll warrant him he has the assurances of Lambeth Palace or Winchester, as soon as he shall have ly'd young Perkin into a Capacity of rewarding his Services.

Obs. The Business of those Men is to Create Feuds and Animosities among us, that is the shortest way they take to Popery and Arbitrary Powers; but, Blessed be God, there is no Reason of Mistrust, no Cause of Jealousie of any of the Dissenters. Their Affection to Her Majesty is altogether sincere without any Reserves of private Interest, She has their Hearts, their Hands, their Money, their good Wishes and Prayers for the Safety of Her Person and Government; and if there be Occasion (which God forbid) they will venture Life and Limb in the preservation of Her Person and Realm; and the more Clouds hang over Her Sacred Head, the better will She be able to discern who are Her true Friends, and Her worst Enemies.

It is not for nothing that the Jacobite Nonjurors have Industriously of late Misrepresented the Moderate Churchmen and the Dissenters, who are the best Prop to the Crown, and the only Security of the Realm. 'Tis Hellish Policy to Calumniate and Asperse the best Men to Dress them up in the Cloathing of Wolves and Bears, and Represent them to the Common People, as the Vilest of Men, Coubin'd in the worst Designs: These must be removed, as Stumbling-Blocks in the way to the Ruin of England. But Her Majesty, who is Endowed with a Masculine Judgment and Address, beholds from Her High Station, the Actions of all Her Subjects, and notwithstanding all the Clamours, the Insinuations and Sycophantry of Incendiaries and Designing Men, She cannot mised into a Party or Faction, as some of H Predecessors have been to their Own Ruin. H Majesty has recommended Peace and Union, the only Means for our Preservation; and if do not concur with Her Majesties Intentions; we are Ruined it is our own Fault, and not o Queens.

Country-m. Master Observator, I wonder wh these Jacobites Nonjuring Fellows have to do wi the Affairs of England: You know we cannot a of us agree in our Sentiments, relating to the O casional Conformity, and here's a Circumforan ous Parson, a Scots-Pedling Priest, that endeavour in the midst of our Sober Reasonings for the D covery of the Truth in Matters relating to t Welfare of the Realm, to stir up in us Heats an Feuds, Unnatural Animosities and Passions. Yo and I may Talk of these Things; we are Friend to the Queen and the Church; but these Men a Enemies to Both, they hate both my Queen an all Her good People, and I hate them as I do th Devil.

Obs. Your Sauce-pan will run over at every Turn; if the be any Complaint made of what you now say, I'll warrant you'll be out of the way, you'll be gone to Plough, or to M ket with your Corn.

Country-m. Pray, Sir, don't Question my Integrity, I nev so much as spoke a Word against my Queen in all my Life, n against the Parliament; and if ever the *Observator* happens be Hang'd, you'll certainly find the *Country-man* in the same H ter; but in Sober Sadness I will not allow these *Non-juring* Fe lows to intermeddle with our Disputes, they are worse th Foreigners and have less to do with our Affairs; they a Members neither of the State nor Church of *England*, and th they pretend to adjust the Qualifications for Offices, who w not Qualifie themselves by taking the Oaths to the best Queens? If ever *I* hear 'em Talk again in my Company at th Rate they did a while ago at the Coffee-House, I'll Rub 'e down with my Oaken Towel, and make 'em mind their ow Business, if they have any.

Obs. Come, come, I find you are going to Launch o again, and therefore to take you off from this Invidious Su ject; prithee tell us what News?

Country-m. News, Master *Observator*, the finest that ever yo heard in all your Life; there's the Duke of *Berwick's* Secretar and some other *Jacobites* and *Frenchmen* taken as coming fro *France*, with I can't tell how many Letters, and a Power of Bil Exchange for Money; and they say some of 'em are taken a so in *Scotland*: My Service to Doctor *Lesly*, I hope we sha take Occasion to pay 'em well for their Pains. You see my Q is the particular Care of Providence; not one Plot against He and Her Government will Prosper; Confounded be all Her Ene mies. Pray Sir, who is this Duke of *Berwick*?

Obs. He's a Natural Son of the Late King *James*, and one th will Fight for the Popish Interest; He's a meer *Desperado*, an fit to be Employ'd in any dangerous Enterprize. By the la News we had from *Paris*, we had an Account, that he was go ing Commander in chief of the *French* Forces, design'd to b Employ'd against the Allies in *Portugal*; 'twas a good Amuse ment enough. The *French* Tyrant, like the Lap-Wing, never keeps his Eye on the place he is most concern'd for: He'll Lea us out of our Way if we observe his Motions. But he sent th Dukes Secretary out of his way to *Portugal*; I am very gla to hear of his being Taken. We have now got a Clew, which I hope will Lead us into the Intricate Mazes of our Enemies De sign. *I* hope for a good Discovery of all our Home and Foreig Enemies. Prithee pick up what more you can of this Affair. Le us Drink the Queens good Health, and Depart.

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